

Minutes of the June 23 meeting of the Uintah Basin Youth Council

Attending: Jill Goodman, Ray Richardson, Donica Bigelow, Dan Wheeler, Lanae Alexander, Carol Rogers, Dorothy Carter, Margo Weeks, Kathy Deets, Connie Perry, Toni Ansel, Keith Neilsen, Jack Bell, Tracy Parrish, Joanna Reed, Bob Gilbert

Reviewed the writeup of the adult ed system for the two counties. The following additions were made (in italics):

Daggett Co.

Daggett has a program for youth that are struggling. Seems to work well and prevents truancy problems. School Principal has a plan in place when that happens.

Duchesne Co.

For the past school year, had 84 enrollees and 40 participants. Had 42 get diplomas. Seniors that were not going to graduate came over and got their GED. Have night helper classes until 8:00 pm (Monday and Wednesday). The night classes have been very successful as the one on one assistance has provided valuable to students. Finally passed her GED after 1.5 years.

The County could use an alternative high school. The A+ programs are available, but are computer courses, and are difficult to complete. Has review tests and final test - have to pass with an 80%. Has decreased usage.

Ray Richardson, 8th District Court, described the daytime curfew program for high school students. 80% of kids on the street during daytime hours are using drugs. If you are caught breaking the curfew, you have to come into court. We pick them up and get them going with anti-drug programs and supervision. Daytime curfew is 7:30 to 3:30. Probably average 10 curfew violators per week.

How many of the 42 graduates went on to additional training or employment? Not sure, but a new computer program called UTOPIA is designed to provide that kind of information. A few are taking classes. Some are starting college or technical school in the fall. Many are going on to work. Males and females are going into the oil field, and don't need a lot of training. For sponsored participants, obtaining a GED isn't the end goal. GED isn't the end goal. They move on to employment, further training, internships, etc.

The UBATC provides basic math and english courses. *Have found that if a customer is working to prepare for and pass the GED, works better if they work with Carolyn's program, and are referred.*

Carolyn: Want to implement a distance learning program, where it can be used at home. Have to come in and take the test. Check with us weekly. Could be used for those who are farther away. Have had some difficulty getting it to work for the clients - they lose interest. Will start this fall.

DWS is involved in a monthly YIC custody meeting in Vernal. Looking to do something in Duchesne County. May consolidate and have one meeting, or may need to strengthen the Duchesne County meeting.

Adults are coming in for training and getting GED.

Have a careers essentials program at Adult Ed. Also, a financial literacy class - check writing, saving, budgeting, etc. VR also provides this. Counselors are participating in IEPs with students and families. Special ed students usually qualify, as well as those with mental disorders. Could refer them as early as 17. Also present at YIC detention center.

Adults need some guidance, can do interest testing, VR does vocational evaluation unit/skills testing. Need some job counseling to identify a suitable occupation. Recently, a lot of customers come in that want better jobs. Need a diploma - but don't have an idea of going to work. Many employers are requiring diplomas or GEDs.

Duchesne County is not currently offering any ESL courses. Had some going through the school year, but have discontinued. *The School District offers ESL classes at all of its schools during the school year.*

Uintah Co.

The Ashley Valley Education Center has 97 enrolled in its alternative high school program. Additionally, AVEC provides adult ed classes for students who are completing their diploma, preparing for the GED exam, learning a second language and improving basic skills. A+ is available at AVEC for students that want to use computer-driven courses.

A monthly coordination meeting is held with AVEC, DWS, Voc Rehab and UBATC. Participants' progress is discussed and employment plans are revised as needed. Provides ongoing consistency to customers and providers. *Support systems involving all appropriate parties are developed to encourage follow through by participants.*

A monthly coordination meeting between DWS and YIC is also held at Uintah High School. Also, DWS youth specialists visit YIC classes to meet youth and offer services. A similar visit takes place each month to Juvenile Justice classrooms, where DWS youth specialists offer assistance and services.

UBATC provides basic education and math at its Vernal campus.

The electronic high school is also an option for students in Uintah County. *The distance learning is being offered. A student comes to the classroom for all testing, then can work at home with a computer. Weekly contact via email or personal contact is maintained with the student.*

Ray said that at the Juvenile Justice Center, they have hired a tutor for those youth that are having trouble. The tutoring program can accommodate up to 20 youth. Must be under 18 years of age. Jobs are so plentiful, which makes employment a very viable option for youth. There is a good record of referrals between courts and DWS, Voc Rehab and schools. DWS will try to work with youth even if they are not eligible for sponsorship. Youth always need refresher courses and assistance with applications, resumes, job searches, etc.

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students usually qualify, as well as those with mental disorders. Could refer them as early as 17. Also present at YIC detention center.

We want to increase contact with the jail program. Last year, no jail participants passed the GED. Want to do better, including offering the distance learning program.

Adults need some guidance, can do interest testing, VR does vocational evaluation unit/skills testing. Need some job counseling to identify a suitable occupation. Recently, a lot of customers come in that want better jobs. Need a diploma - but don't have an idea of going to work. Many employers are requiring diplomas or GEDs.

Uintah School District offers ESL courses through the AVEC. *Courses are effective and well-attended. ESL courses are being extended to three nights per week. Also, a software program called ELLIS has been identified and provides some homework that can be completed during the courses. ELLIS doesn't take the place of the ESL courses, only provides extra work on a home computer.*

Results have been very positive for students that are taking the GED. The last testing session resulted in 18 out of 20 passing. There were 28 graduates from the alternative high school, and 40 GED recipients.

This coming year, we want to combine prep classes with UBATC, and offer them at both (adult ed and UBATC) campuses in Vernal.

Keith made the point that there can be 12 that take the test at once, and the first twelve slots go to those with a completed application and payment for the test. He will then take backup positions, and invite those students to come on the test day in case some of the initial twelve don't show up. No shows seem to occur every time.

Tracy then provided an update of the Roosevelt Youth program:

In School Youth	Out of School Youth	Foster Care & Transition	Follow-up	Total Youth	WBL
0	7	2	10	17	163

Kathy gave the report for the Vernal Office

In School Youth	Out of School Youth	Foster Care & Transition	Follow-up	Total Youth	WBL
3	13	4	16	29	

Vernal had 5 get a certificate or GED this month.

The region budget for youth services does not break down funds to an office level, but there is

money available for services.

The Council then set its meeting schedule for the coming 12 months.

Uintah Basin Youth Council Meeting Schedule 08-09

Proposed Date	Location	Recognize Youth
Aug 27	Roosevelt	DWS
Sept 24	Vernal	DWS
Oct 22	Roosevelt	UBATC
Dec 3	Vernal	8 th District Court
Jan 28	Roosevelt	DCFS
Feb 25	Vernal	Voc Rehab
Mar 25	Roosevelt	Jane Gurr
April 22	Vernal	Beth - YIC
May 27	Roosevelt	Carolyn/Donica
June 24	Vernal	

Jill thanked all for coming. Meeting adjourned.